

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/658,289

Examiner

ANH PHUNG

Applicant(s)

CHIU ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Election received on Nov. 30, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-31 and 40-49.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.


THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other Search History.


ANH PHUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to the Election received on November 30, 2005, the non-elected claims **32-39** are canceled and elected claims **1-31** and **40-49** are pending in the application.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

2. Claims **1-31** and **40-49** are allowed.

Wang et al. (U.S. 2004/0109354), Shelton et al. (US 5,825,199) and Tsui et al. (US 5,412,260) disclose a system and associated method similar to that of the present application, but fail to teach:

“an off-system programmable nonvolatile memory connected to said control circuit for being programmable only when connected to an external programming voltage; an on-system programmable nonvolatile memory connected to said control circuit for being programmable under control of said control circuit; a pumping circuit connected to said on-system programmable nonvolatile memory for supplying an internal programming voltage during programming said on-system programmable nonvolatile memory; a volatile memory connected to said control circuit; and an I/O unit connected to said control circuit” as claimed in the independent claim **1**; or

“connecting an off-system programmable nonvolatile memory to said control circuit; connecting an on-system programmable nonvolatile memory to said control circuit; connecting a pumping circuit to said on-system programmable nonvolatile memory; connecting a volatile memory to said control circuit; and connecting an I/O unit to said control circuit; wherein said off-system programmable nonvolatile memory is

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programmable by connecting with an external programming voltage from outside of said chip, and said on-system programmable nonvolatile memory is programmable by supplying an internal programming voltage from said pumping circuit" as claimed in the independent claim **40**.

Any comments considered necessary by applicants must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comment on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **ANH PHUNG** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1883**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **RICHARD ELMS**, can be reached on **(571) 272-1869**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **(703) 872-9306**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866-217-9197** (toll-free).

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AKP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anh Phung". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anh" and last name "Phung" clearly distinguishable.

**ANH PHUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER**